Using Data for evaluation and recommendation.

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Overview

- Deciding
  - Subject to study
  - Resources needed
  - What questions to ask
  - How to keep it manageable
  - What data is needed
  - How to interpret the data
  - How to use the data
- CPS recidivism example

Where to get ideas from

- CPS
- Priority focus areas
- State or regional quarterly reports
- Personal experience

Resources

- State and regional program area experts
  - Practice information
  - Guidelines
  - National initiatives
- State and regional data experts
  - Empirical research
  - Data available
  - How to interpret data
  - National data
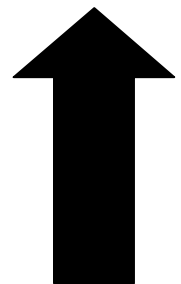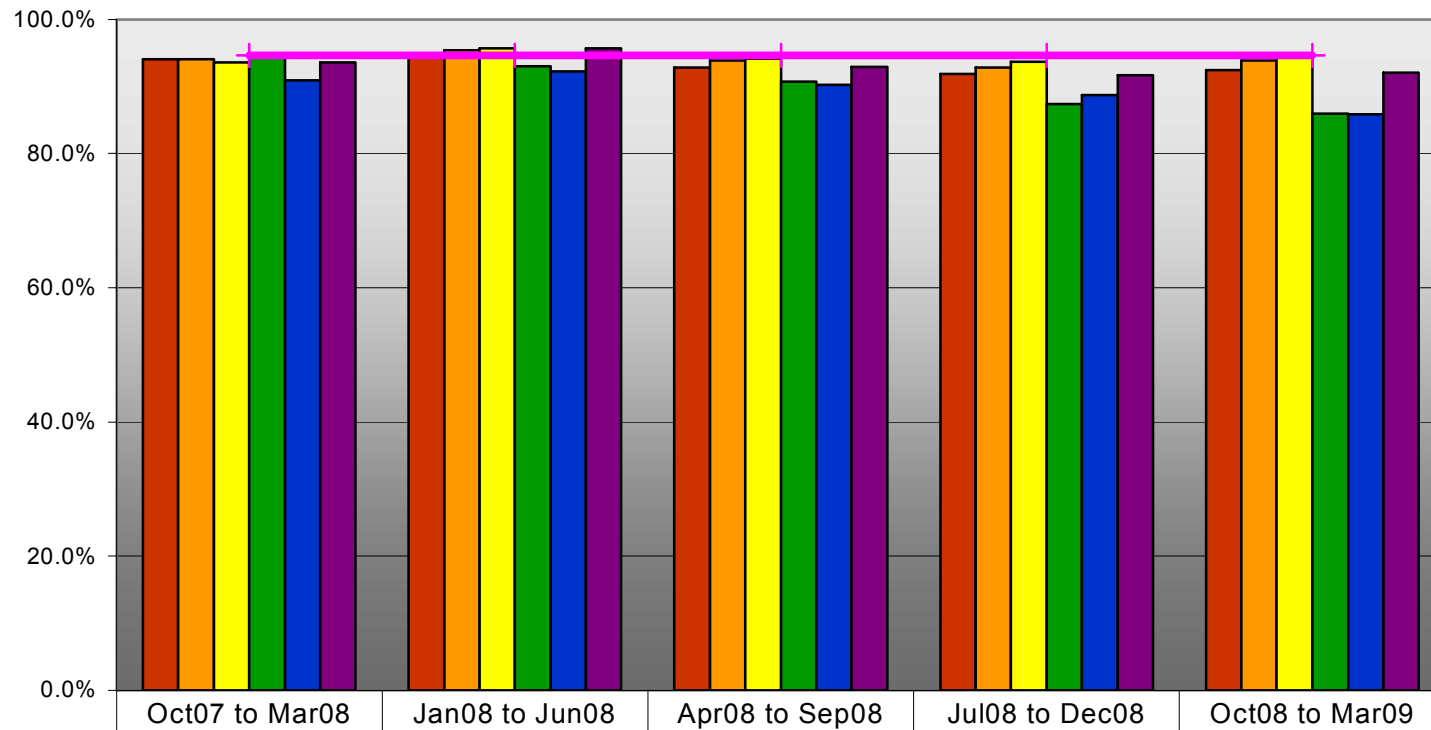
Narrowing your subject

- What area do you want to explore further?
- Why do you want to examine it?
- What specific questions are you seeking answers to?
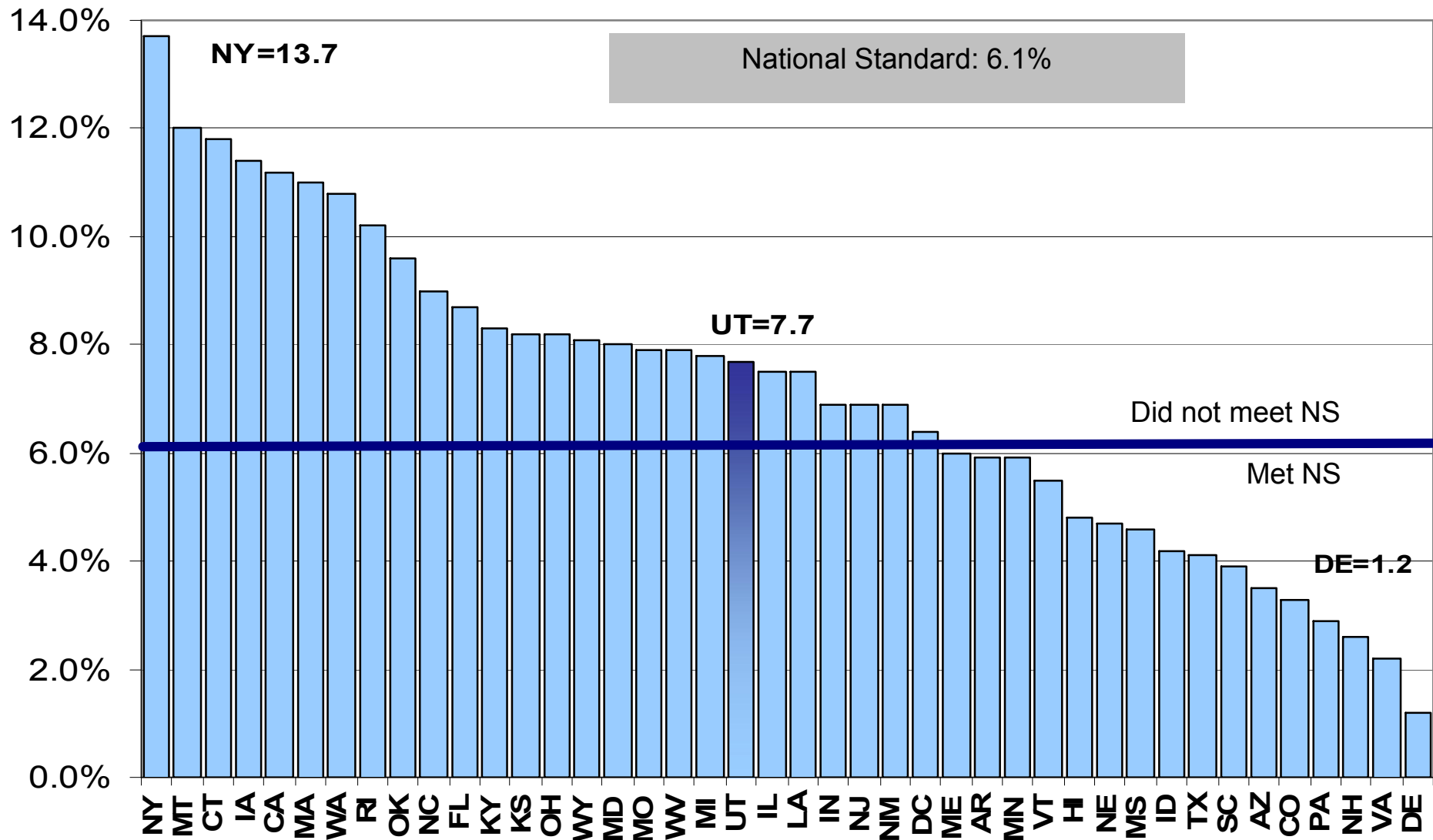- What are your hypotheses?

Maltreatment Recurrence

Percent of Children without Subsequent Supported CPS Case within 6 months

	Oct07 to Mar08	Jan08 to Jun08	Apr08 to Sep08	Jul08 to Dec08	Oct08 to Mar09
Northern	94.1%	94.8%	92.8%	91.9%	92.5%
Salt Lake	94.1%	95.4%	93.9%	92.8%	93.9%
Western	93.6%	95.7%	94.2%	93.7%	95.0%
Eastern	94.9%	93.1%	90.8%	87.4%	86.0%
Southwest	90.9%	92.3%	90.3%	88.8%	85.9%
Division	93.6%	95.7%	92.9%	91.7%	92.1%
Goal	94.6%	94.6%	94.6%	94.6%	94.6%

National Standard: 6.1%

NY=13.7

UT=7.7

Did not meet NS

Met NS

DE=1.2

Y-axis: 14.0%, 12.0%, 10.0%, 8.0%, 6.0%, 4.0%, 2.0%, 0.0%

X-axis: NY, MT, CT, IA, CA, MA, WA, RI, OK, NC, FL, KY, KS, OH, WY, MD, MO, WV, MI, UT, IL, LA, IN, NJ, NM, DC, ME, AR, MN, VT, HI, NE, MS, ID, TX, SC, AZ, CO, PA, NH, VA, DE

Stay focused

- Tackle only one or two subjects at a time

- Don't get distracted by associated topics

- Keep a tabled list of things to explore at future meetings so that you don't get off topic.

- Keep your questions to those that can inform practice or recommendations

What is Data?

Data is simply information. The key is that you want the information to be a true (valid) representation of the topic you are examining. And you want information that is representative (generalizable) of the population you are examining (unit, office, region, state).

Types of Data

- Demographic/Descriptive
  - Inputs resources needed to run program
  - Outputs
- Process or practice
- Outcomes
  - Actual
  - Perceptual

Types of Reports

- Demographic Reports: These are reports that give you a picture of the type of clients that you serve.

Types of Reports

- Process Reporting:These reports measure things that people believe lead to good outcomes.?

Types of Reports

- Process Reporting:

- 1.   Exception reporting: Part of process reporting is exception reports. These reports tell us what things were not done that we think should be done.

- 2.   Best case practice reporting: Another part of process reporting is best case practice reports.

Types of Reports

- Outcome Reports:
  - These type of reports help answer the question Are the services we provide effective?
  - They tell us how well we are performing at our goals of safety, permanence, and well-being.

Deciding on Data

- What Information is necessary to answer these questions?

- What conclusions could be drawn?

- In what ways could you utilize it?

- Think if the potential answers would inform recommendations for change or improvement.

CPS Recidivism

- 66% of time the perpetrator is the same
- 53% of the time the allegation is the same
- 40% of the time both the perpetrator and the allegation are the same
- 30% of the time both allegations are Domestic Violence related child abuse

How data can be used

- Demographic view of who we serve
- Assessing performance and outcomes
- Use with legislature to evaluate proposed legislation
- Predictive to ask for resources for future
- Resource Allocation
- Partner agencies, grant awards
- Inform practice
- Alleviate concerns

Interpreting

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- What can you conclude – does the data answer your questions?
- What can't you conclude
- What are follow-up projects/questions.

Types of Action or Recommendations

- Review how unit/office/region is performing against the state, the region, some goal or standard that has been set. If lower recommend unit/office/region do in-depth evaluation or have action plan for improvement.
- Suggest region review how individual workers are performing.
- Suggest supervisors work with struggling employees to identify their barriers, set up mentoring.
- Praise workers who are performing well.
- Share innovative practices that are successful.

Types of Action or Recommendations

- Management or supervisor oversight. Increased accountability of employees

- Guidelines need to be written

- Practice improvements to increase effectiveness of services

- Improving skills, implementing training

- Identify what system factors may be impacting success and work to solve with administration
- Identify if there are specific populations that seem more challenging in a specific measure. Workshop with administration what can be done to work toward better outcomes for this population.

Challenge

- Examine CPS recidivism in your area